#### SOME NEW BOOKS.

American Colleges

They who are interested in the scheme o advanced education provided for young men is this country and who is not? - will find much desirable data, not easily attainable elsewhere, in the concise and interesting account of American Colleges by the Rev. CHARLES F. THWING (Putnams). We have here the digested outcome of an extensive inquiry with reference to the scope and quality of the instruction furnished by the multitudinous institutions which in the United States purport to offer a collegieducation, together with a definite state ment of the expenditure required and the pe cuniary aid offered by many of these establishments. Those young men who are as yet uncertain to which of the seminaries that, with various degrees of justice, profess to besents of learning, they would prefer to resort, or which It would best accord with their pecuniary means oenter, will do well to consult this book, for they will get from it precisely the information

and suggestions of which they stand in need. But while we recognize the want which has been answered by this volume, and appreciate the service rendered by the author's in dustrious compilation and skilful classification of facts, we cannot say that he always drawn from his materials all the deductions that we think might be pertinent and profitable. We have no doubt that the author has been restrained in many instances by good nature from pressing home the inferences to be drawn from certain of the facts here set forth, but it seems to us that in a matter of such large concern as the characte of our higher education plain speaking would be the truest kindness. We should have liked, for example, to see Mr. Thwing test with considerable rigor the range and thoroughness of the instruction furnished by even our most ambitious institutions. Is it true that as regards proficiency in the classics in particular a graduate of Yale or Harvard is the equal, or even the superior of a crack Etonian or Wykami. ist, and would be, in Mr. Thwing's opinion, have any chance of beating such men in competition a Ballol scholarship? And if not, why not If our leading universities are to continue to give a large place in their curricula to the Greek and Latin authors, why should they not turn out scholars at least as accomplished as those which are sent up every year to Oxford and Cambridge by the great public schools of England? It is true that we pay little or no attention to writing Latin and Greek verse: but the question still remains whether without that accomplishment it is possible to insure, at the age when American students graduate. equal ripeness and accuracy of scholarship.

We might name other educational establish ments in this country which would have been still more benefited by the rudest candor There are hundreds of so-called colleges in the United States, but the great majority-indeed, the exceptions may be reckoned on the fingersnot only have no pretensions to university functions but are far from deserving the humbler name of college in the sense in which the term belongs to Eton and Winchester. They are at nere colleges in the meaning which the word bears in France-boarding schools or day schools, which purport to fit boys, or young men no more advanced than boys, to enter s university. The precept quothi seauton might be quite as appropriately enjoined bodies corporate as on individuals, and since comparison is one of the conditions of self-knowledge, the larger part of our profeesed colleges would have been benefited by contrasting what they affect to do with what is actually performed by the English public schools and the best German gymnasia. It would be, indeed, a healthful sign if half of our meagrely equipped and Ill-officered collegiate institutions would frankly call themselves schools," thus recognizing the modest range of their resources and capabilities. It was scarcely worth their while to follow, as most of them have followed, the sarcastic admonition. addressed to an aspiring lad, to aim at the ze nith in order to lodge his arrow on the roof of a one-story house.

## A Great Orientalist's Strange Story.

To most American readers EDWARD HENRY PALMER is only known as the sometime occu-pant of the honorable but ill-paid post of the Lord Almoner's Professor of Arabic in the University of Cambridge, as the author of a captivating though most crudite life of Haroun al Raschid, and as one of the victims of massacre perpetrated by the Bedouins of the Buez desert in the summer of 1882, which witnessed the English conquest of Egypt. Among Oriental scholars, on the other hand, in Europe and throughout the East, he had come, young as he was, to be reputed a greater master of the Arabic, Hindustani, and Persian languages (in the sense of ability to wield those tongues with the utmost readiness and officiency by the mouth and by the pen) than anyother Englishman of his own, or it may be, of any generation. It is not alone or chiefowever, in recognition of his extraordinary attainments that he has tained a resting place in Westminster Abbey by the side of England's heroedeath it has been officially, though inadequately, acknowledged that he was slain when on the point of crowning services of exceptional difficulty and value which he had been called upon to render to his country. The esteem and gratitude which he richly earned will be paid to his memory, for by a rare stroke of posthumous good fortune, the story of his life is told by a devoted friend. who is at the same time an accomplished man of letters, and who by his own tastes and nequirements is able to appreciate what Paimer actually performed, as well as the assurance of larger and more lustrous work which was brought to naught by fate. The Life of Edward Henry Palmer, by WALTER BESANT (E. P. Dutton & Co.), re-embles in tone and texture an East ern remance rather than the record of a normal Englishman's career; and there is no doub that not only were the incidents of Palmer's life anomalous and surprising, but his intel lectual aptitudes and proclivities belonged to an Asiatic rather than a European type,

Palmer's life was but a short one, if we measure it by years, for he was only 42 when he was murdered on Aug. 10, 1882, or by what may b called his active life, as distinguished from the period of preparation, since he did not take his B. A. degree at Cambridge until 1867, at the unusually late age of 27. That he should have graduated at all, and that, after obtaining onl third class, he should nevertheless receive a Fellowship at St. John's College, were no the least extraordinary events in his career The son of a poor schoolmaster in the town of Cambridge, he inherited nothing from his parents but a dangerous tendency to asthma and bronchial disease, and, although an aunt, who had some property, was willing to give him as education, he showed no abilities of the kind that are prized in an ordinary grammar school He cared nothing for the popular English sports he disliked mathematics, and made so luti progress in Latin and Greek that his acquisi tion of a scholarship was out of the question and accordingly at the age of fifteen all thought of sending him to the university was aban doped. He was therefore sent up to London. where he became a clerk in a mercantile house a position which he held until 1859, when he was attacked by pulmonary disease, and being given over by his physician, was sent back to Cambridge to die.

These years, however, had not been wasted as they seem at first sight to have been, even from a linguistic point of view. While still a boy at school he learned Romany by paying travelling tinkers sixpence for a lesson, by haunting gypsics' tents, talk ing to the men and crossing the women's palms with his scanty pocket money in a change for a few more words to add to hi vocabulary. In London he spent leisure hours in obtaining a mastery Italian and French in the way which always insisted was the only speedy and effect ive method, namely, by frequenting the places where Italians and Frenchmen met, and by listening and taiking to them. Whatever may be thought of this system in ordinary hands, it

s certain that by means of it Palmer became familiar with the speech of all the Italian provnces, as well as the polite and academic tongue, and could converse with the Piedmontese, the Venetian, the Roman, the Sicillian, or the Calabrian in their own dialects as fluently as with the most accomplished Florentine. He could do the same with French, join ing to a knowledge of the pure language a wide and curious acquaintance with patois and argot. Mindful of his own experience. Palmer afterward maintained that any intelligent per son can learn to road a language in a few weeks and to speak it in a few months, unless it be his first attempt at an Oriental tongue.

Even the incident of Palmer's rescue from the threatened death by consumption reads like the story of a cure in the "Arabian Nights." Given up, as we have said, by the physicians, he allowed an herbalist in one of the villages near Cambridge to experiment upon im, and took a strong dose of lobella, an herb which it seems produces effects similar to those of hemlock. The first result of this prescription was apparently to paralyze him, even the pulse being arrested, and the regular physician who had been sent for pronounced him dead. But he recovered suddenly, and, strange to say, was no more troubled with consumption for the rest of his life. It was during the period of convalescence which followed, that Palmer's attention was first directed to the study of Oriental languages. He made the acquaintance of Syed Abdullah, an able man and teacher of Indian languages, who had come to Cambridge to read with a class of men who were going gut in the India civil service. Picking up some of his new friend's writings, out of pure curiosity. Palmer's imagination was fired, and having learned the Arabic char acter for himself, he was presently stimulated to begin an exploration of the vocabulary until what had been begun as a half idle and languid inquiry became the passion of his life. Syed Abdullah found that he had a pupil, not only apt, but with an extraordinary natural genius for Eastern languages. After a while Palmer found other masters and advisers, among them the late George Skinner at that time Chaplain of Kings College, with whom he read Hebrew. Soon, too, he was introduced to the Nawab Ikbal-ud-Dawlah, who, for three years at least, furnished him generous assistance, allowing him to live in his house when he pleased, and giving him the assistance of two erudite Munshis, with whom he read Arabic, Persian, and Urdu, or Hindustani. Besides his obligations to the Nawab, Palmer was much indebted to a Bengalee gentle man, a Mohammedan, who spent much time in the supervision of the young man's work and who, on his return to India, gave Palmer £50 to help him in his studies, sending him be-sides a valuable present of Oriental MSS, and books, Prof. Mir Aulad Ali of Trinity College, Dublin, seems also to have been from the first his adviser, teacher, friend, and sympathizer. These facts explode the theory by which a good many men tried subsequently to excuse the meagreness of their own attainments, and to minimize the merit of Palmer's-the theory that Arabic and Persian came naturally to him Unquestionably this man was endowed with an extraordinary natural gift for the acquisition of languages, but it is made evident by his biographer that, without an equal power of industry, this gift would have been of no avail. Of course some men can learn and some cannot. But in Palmer's case, as in all other cases, success was only reached after laborincessant, arder inextinguishable, and resolution undaunted. If Palmer was to turn his acquirements is the Oriental languages to account, it seemed

versity degree. He was enabled to do this through two Fellows of St. John's, who brought his case before the governing body, and prevailed on it to permit Pulmer to enter his name at the college and stand for a sizarship, which he obtained in October, 1863, and which was sequently followed by a scholarship. It is not to be inferred that either was gained by at-tainments in classics or mathematics, both being, in fact, conferred on him solely on account of his proficiency in Arabic and Persian. Math ematics he always disliked, and he considered the hours which he was now compelled to spend over Latin and Greek as a grievous waste of time. We are not surprised there fore, to learn that when he was admitted to his Bachelor's degree in 1867, he won only thirdclass classical honors. This subsequently proved a serious misfortune to him, so far a university advancement was concerned, for the heads of houses who possessed the power of appointment to university professorships, were then, and probably still are, governed by the old-fashioned conventional tests in the graduation of fitness and ability. His own colindeed, St. John's, gave him a Fellowship worth £300 a year, this being at that time the first instance of a man getting a Fellowship at that college (the Baliel of Cambridge) who had not taken high honors in either classics or mathematics. But when, in 1871, the University Professorship of Arabic, also worth £300 a year, fell vacant, it was refused to Palmer, notwithstanding the most eulogistic testimonials from Continental Orientalists, and from learned Mohammedans in British India, and in spite of the fact that Palmer was the only Cambridge man who could possibly be a candi date. The place was given to Dr. Wright, a man unquestionably well qualified, but whe was not a member of the University. Subsequently, in the same year, Palmer was ap sointed to the Lord Almoner's Professorship of Arabic, a little thing so far as stipend goes being worth only \$40 a year, but this was subsequently augmented by £250 in consideration of three courses of lectures in Arabic, Persian,

to be indispensable that he should take a uni-

In the interval between graduation and the sumption of professorial duties, Palmer made the two journeys in the East which were o give him an exhaustive knowledge of the Bedouin character and country, and to mark him out for the daring expedition which cost him his life. It was because he was known to speak Arabic with extraordinary fluency that he was invited to join the party which, in 1868 made a minute survey of the Sinai Peninsula, a work of great importance to that portion of world which is interested in the history of the Israelites. One of Palmer's special func ions was the deciphering of the Sinaltic incriptions, and he became the historian of th edition in a book, now out of print, called "The Desert of the Exodus." In the following year, Palmer was commissioned by the Palestine Exploration Society to traverse the whole distance between Sucz and Gaza, and it was this journey in particular, which he performed with one companion, that brought him into contact with the Towarah and other powerful cribes of the desert, and that gave him an influence over them by which he was enabled to

undertake and carry through the great achieve-

and Hindustani.

ment of July, 1882. The next ten years were a period of indefatt gable industry, for, besides fulfilling his university duties, he did an immense amount of work, taking part in the examination of candidates for the Indian service, contributing articies on Oriental subjects to the "Quarterly Roviews" and the "Encyclopædia Britannica, contributing in Persian and Hindustani to various papers in India, writing numerous critial papers for the "Saturday Review," and, toward the last, doing regular journalistic work for the Sandard. Among the books which he published may be mentioned, in addition to Life of Haroun ai Rascuid," a remarkable atalogue of the Oriental MsS, in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, an Arable version of "Lalia Bookh," a translation of Koran, a translation accompanying the original text of Beha-ed-din, an Arabic Egypt, an Arabic grammar, specially aluable for the treatment of the prosody, and a Persian dictionary. Touching the merit of hese works, we need only cite the statement d Mr. G. F. Nicholf, Regius Professor of Arabic at Oxford, who, in the discussion of Palmer's crudition, which forms an appendix to this volume, pronounces him the greatest Oriental linguist and readlest Oriental scholar that Eng-

In a chapter entitled "The Recreations of a

Pundit" Mr. Besant touches on that side of Paimer's character which made him the most interesting and delightful of college professors. As we have said, he cared nothing fo the regulation English sports, and was no athlete. Nevertheless, he spent a good deal of time in the gymnasium, and could do clever things on the parallel bars and the trapeze Once he found a bar at the top of St. John' Chapel tower, which was then building, and swung from it too and neel, hanging over a drop of 300 feet. He loved to go a-fishing in out-of-the-way places, and would walk miles to spond a day with gypsies. He was always sketching, painting, and drawing, and was excoedingly happy in caricature. Burlesque writing was another favorite amuse-ment of his, and he spent a good deal of his leisure in private theatricals. exhibiting a real gift for acting. About the year 1963 he was very strongly attracted by conjuring, and acquired astonishing skill in manipulation. Subsequently he began an in vestigation of antritualistic phenomena and performed almost all the tricks for which Slade. Foster, and other adepts have obtained noto He made, for instance, an electric rapriety. ping table, by means of which surprising com munications were effected from great men departed. He was very successful in producing the "levitation" delusion, under which a bod; is seen floating in the dim twilight. He also acquired the knack of drawing what are known as spirit portraits, the faces be ing sketched without looking on the paper, and while the artist's eyes steadily fixed elsewhere. In thought reading he arrived at results quite as extraordinary as those recorded of Mr. Bishop. With regard to these things, however, he was always ready to point out how he did them, and expressed latterly at least, an unfeigned contempt for all pretenders to supernatural powers. Yet he had a fondness for weird and strange stories, and his biographer believes that there was a time in his life when he would have been reolced could he have found the pretensions of Spiritualism warranted. Perhaps his reading aw should be included among his recreations About the year 1870 he entered the Middle Temple, probably with the thought of going some day to India. He was called to the bar seen regularly on the Eastern circuit. He is said to have got a fair amount of business, bu it was interrupted and quite destroyed by the ong illness of his first wife, who died of consumption in 1879, leaving him terribly embarrassed by debts incurred on her account. It was, by the way, in pursuance of an attempt to meet these obligations that Palmer plunged into journalistic work on the staff of the Standard. If reading law was a relaxation after the deciphering of Arabic manuscript there is no doubt that Palmer counted the rapid acquisition of modern European tongues among his diversions. Mr. Besant assures us that he had completely mastered all the groups of the Romance, Scandinavian, and Teutonic languages, with their dialects besides these he knew modern Greek; he knew Welsh, he had begun the Slavenic languages and knew some Russian and a little Polish. The amusing Portuguese handbook for learning English in which the author, Senhor Fonseca. evolved a language of his own, was known and laughed about in England, long before it was discovered in New York, and Palmer loved to talk its grotesque pigeon English, and used it for some clever verses which are published in Dobson's "Poetical Ingenuities." Palme was, in short, one of the most many-sided inquisitive, and unconventional of men, for whom the ordinary standpoints of observation did not suffice. He regarded humanity from a

rather from the different point of view which bolongs to every different nation. Such was the man to whom the British Govrament had recourse for a most important stroke of secret service, in June, 1882, when the expedition against Egypt had been decided on. At this juncture, the thing most dreaded vas the destruction of the Suthis, it was feared, would be effected by the Bedouin tribes on its eastern side. The Gladstone Cabinet became convinced that no time ought to be lost in detaching those tribes if possible from Arabi Pasha, and in quieting fanaticism which might assume such proportions as to set the whole East aflame. Palmer who had been applied to by the Admiralty for information, stated his belief that the Bedouir sheiks might if some emissary could be got o go quietly among them, be persuaded to ait down and do nothing, and perhaps to even take an active part against the rebels. It was determined that an effort must be made in this direction, and when Lord Northbrook put the question to him. "Do you know any one who would go?" he replied. "I will go myself." It has since been asked repeatedly why Palmer, a man of peace, a scholar, should wish to meddle with a soldier's business. It is rue that there were other Englishmen who were Arabic scholars, and there were one or two, like Captain Bichard Burton, who had lived with the Bodouins as one of themselves and were accustomed to go about in momentary peril of death. But Palmer was the only man who personally knew the shelks of the Teynhah and Terebin Arabs, and might, perhaps, therefore travel among them as an old friend. He seemed, accordingly, the only Englishman who could even attempt to avert the danger. and as the service he would render his country by merely making the attempt was certainly very great, and might prove beyond all power of reward if he should succeed he consented to go. His mission was to proceed by way of Jaffa and Gaza to the desert and pontasula of Sinai, to get there as best he could at his own peril, to travel about from tribe to tribe, and to ascertain in the first place the extent of the excitement aroused among them and how far they were minded to join Arabi. He was next to strive for the detachment of the whole of the tribes if practicable from the Exeptian cause, and, with this object, to find out on what terms each sheik would consent to make his people sit down in peace, or. necessary, join and fight with the British forces. Thirdly, as to the canal, he was to take whatever steps he thought best for an effective guarding of the waterway on the eastern side, or for the repair of it in case Arabi should attempt its destruction.

Moslem as well as a Christian point of view, or

In pursuance of this plan, Palmer, assuming the name of Sheik Abdullah, by which he had been previously known to the Bedouins, left Gaza on July 15, 1852, with a native servant, hired in Jaffa, for his sole companion, and was not heard of again until he reached Suez on. Aug. 1. In this preliminary run through the desert he had succeeded beyond his most extravagant hopes, although he had to contend against the influence exerted by emissaries from Cairo, and aithough repeatedly his life had nung upon a thread. What he accomplished may be summed up in a few words. Alone and single handed he induced the tribes to trust his promises; to agree to rise at his bidding; to protect the canal; to line it with guards if necessary; and, if called upon, to fight Arabi's Nile (Bedouins with 50,000 men. It is, of course, idle to ask what would have happened if Pale had not taken that journey. On this head Mr. Besant remarks: "We found, after Palmer made he tribes quiet and there was no enemy on the banks of the canal, that we could guard it by patrol service of gunboats; we found, after Palmer had removed all chance of an atlack he rear, that the operations which led to Telel-Kebir were possible. What if he had not gone through the desert first?"

It was on Aug 9 that Prof. Palmor, now no ton, and having £3.000 in his possession, left Suez to fulfil the promises which he had made in the course of his astonishing ride from Gaza. He was destined never to reach his friends, the powerful sheiks of the interior, for he and his comrades were betrayed, on the night of Aug. 10, by the guides and cameleers employed for the first stage of the journey, and on the following day they were barbarously murdered by some predatory Bedouins belonging to the only one of the Sinaitic tribes over which the party of Arabi had managed to obtain control.

Whether his captors had been ordered to mas-sacre the Christians, or whether they were wrought to homicidal fury by their failure to secure the money, which had been carried off by one of the treacherous cameleers, will al-ways romain uncertain, for the official investigation did not succeed in clearing up the question of purpose. But the manner in which the prisoners were put to death is now well known. Stripped nearly naked, they were driven, in front of the Bedouins, over rough ground for about a mile to the ravine of Wady Sudr. It appears from the official report that this occurred during the scorehing heat of an August day, and, as none of the prisoners had any covering on their heads, it seems likely that by the time they arrived at the place selected for their murder they were almost unconscious. On reaching the wady they were placed in a row facing the gully, and close to the edge, in order that upon being shot their bodies might be precipitated into the chasm. Prof. Palmer was killed first, and the others, who then made a dash forward, were shot as they tried to scramble down the cliff. Subsequently several Bedouins descended to the bottom of the gully, and not only despatched those who still breathed, but thrust their swords

through each member of the party Mr. Besant tells us that soon after the murder a report was current among the Arabs at Cairo that the Sheik Abdullah, by which name, as we have mentioned, Palmer was known, had, before he was shot down, solemnly cursed his murderers. We are reminded by he biographer that cursing, in the hands of an Oriental who understands how to curse, is a most powerful weapon of defence. To this, as his last resource, Palmer was driven, for if he could not deter the assassins by cursing, he could do no more for his friends and for himself. To appreciate an Oriental curse we must go back to the Old Testament. Such an imprecation is a solemn and an awful thing. It falls upon a man and weighs him down and crushes him; it brings with it a fearful foreboding of judgment; it lies like lead upon a guilty heart; it helps to bring the crime to light and the criminals to justice. One of the men who compassed Palmer's death was so tortured by renorse that be became distraught, and presently iny down and died, and Mr. Besant does not doubt that the denunciations of woe, ruin, desolation, and death-Sheik Abdullah's last words on earth-which smote the ears of those wild desert men and were echoed back from the rocks around them, shook and chilled them all like the icy and relentless blast of doom. Nor was it long before vengeance fell upon

Palmer's murderers; they have all perished This biography is a touching memorial of admiration and affection such as it is given to ew men to inspire. It is fittingly concluded: Eight months later we stood in the crypt, where England buries her heroes, to pay the inst honors to the three who fell in the Wady Sudr. While the words of our magnificent service for the dead resounded among the shadows of that ghostly place, while the voices of the choristers echoed among the tombs, there were some present who wept; and some who thanked Heaven for English hearts as true and loyal now as in the brave days of old; and some who thought of Palmer's strange destiny, and how a brave boy should win his way from obscurity to honor by indomitable courage and persistence, and how the mortal remains of a quiet scholar and man of books should find a place

#### beside the bones of Weilington and Neison." Margaret Puller.

There was doubtless room for a collection of biographies which should justify its right to the attractive title of the "Famous Women Series." But the definition and criterion of fame adopted should have been made patent by the names of the persons relected for portraiture, and should commend itself to the judgment of the majority of intelligent readers. To pass over, or even to postpone, he lives of Mme. de Sévigné and Mme. de Stael. of Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte, and Mrs. browning, and to place instead of them within the foremost niches of the gallery the comparatively obscure and modest figures of Emily Bronté, Mary Lamb, and Anno Bradstreet, is to assume a privilege of graduating distinction and appraising achievement which will scarcely be conceded to the abnormal standards and private predilections of an anonymous editor. It is plain, indeed, that the term "famous, arned now and then in a generation by men of letters, and even in such instances only occasionally countersigned by posterity. means something very different from the conception attaching to the same word when applied to literary women by the compiler of the series now in course of publication by the Messrs, Roberts, Unquestionably there have seen within the last two centuries for women in the highest and largest meaning of the epithet, and quite enough of them to form a galaxy impressive in point of numbers as well as lustro; but as yet many of the brightesi names are unrecorded in the series in question and even should Miss Austen and Browning receive hereafter the attention they deserve, they can hardly fail to be belittled by the strange lowering of the accepted tests of greatness and by the mixed company in which

they will find themselves. No one conversant with the literary history of the United States during the first half of this century-which, although illuminated by two stars of the first in guitude. Emerson and Hawthorne, cannot seriously be regarded as particularly fruitful or specially resplendent would deny that Margaret Fuller, a sketch of whom by Mrs. JULIA WARD HowE forms the latest number of the series to which we have referred, was in her day an interesting and to considerable extent a useful woman of letters. But it was a day of small things, and Miss Fuller's fugitive outgivings are certainly not numbered in the narrow list of the literary products of that time which have survived. She wrote literary and art criticisms for magazines and newspapers, and there is no doubt that her work was greatly superior as regards both matter and form to most of the writing which American periodicals could afford to pay for forty years ago. But it will be acknowledged that at a period when the Tribune did not feel itself abic to pay George Ripley more than \$15 a week, the field of labor chosen by Miss Fuller was not an inviting one. Under such conditions journalism was not likely to tempt many capable and energetic tollers from the other liberal professions; indeed, it had scarcely ventured to challenge for itself a place in the same category. with the exception of Edgar Poe, whose abilities and whose hold upon pesterity it would be absurd to underrate by comparing them with Miss Fuller's, and George Ripley, whose intuitions were less subtle and whose sympathies were much less glowing and infectious than bers, the subject of Mrs. Howe's biography had few competitors and no comparisons to fear in the prosecution of her critical work. Naturally it excited much attention, but it would excite much less now: perhaps, indeed, the oracular tone of her utterances, her little affectations of escotric wisdom, and her nailed for the proposality to pose in the rôle of a transmallantic Spbil, would only provoke a smile from the more sophisticated readers of a later time. It is, we venture to assert, a fact that Miss Fuller's contributions to the Tribune and other periodical publications, although they have been piously collect and reprinted are absolutely dead to the present generation; that not one of the young men and women who will, we do not doubt, peruse Mrs. Howe's book with pleasure, has ever read a line of the literary productions which, they are informed, distinguish the subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowest now they are used only for letting subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowed and subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowed and subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowed and subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowed to have put upon her work for whatever the major and the province of the literary productions which, they are informed, distinguish the subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowed to have put upon her work for whatever the most of the subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowed to have put upon her work for whatever the most of the province of the literary productions which they are informed distinguish the subject of the biography. Nor will it be lowed to the province of the literary production of the literary production which have long since irremediably perished. We need not cavil at the flattent of t With the exception of Edgar Poe, whose abilities and whose hold upon posterity it would be absurd to underrate by comparing them with

mself, gave her certificates of excellence But there is no spell in their hasty or good-natured endorsement to paralyze the independent adgment of a new generation, to constrain it to marrel at the wonders and accept the idols of a cruder day, to recognize as worthy of a niche in the gallery of renowned women the author of compositions whose very titles have vanished beyond recall.

#### A Delightful Miscellany.

This is a dainty volume of pleasant dialogue, interspersed with varied verse, which W. Stony has given us, under the appropriate title of A Poet's Portfolio (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). Many of the poems, it is true have been previously published, but here they are prefaced and accompanied by criticism and comment which is always thoughtful and stimulative, and sometimes pungent. Those who know Mr. Story's verse need not to be told how finished and attractive in respect of form it is; how far he is from contenting himself. as too many of our modern lyrists do, with corruscations of fancy and surprising effects of melody, being at all times sedulous to offer us something worth pondering and remembering in his smooth and tuneful lines. There are poems of his which for compression and pregnancy of meaning may be likened to Mr. Browning's esoteric and cryptogrammatic deliverances-minus the obscurity-and others in whose screne mood of deep and earnest meditation we are reminded of the best work of Mr. Matthew Arnold. If Mr. Story is less widely known than some who are less qualified than he to claim a place among the accredited revealers of poetic truth and beauty, it is because he has preferred to seek expression in another province of artistic labor, and is content that his infrequent utterances in verse shall be watched for and treasured by the few who know how to value serious and germinative musings and who can feel the penetrating

charm of unaffected sentiment. Most of the poems in this volume though few of them are long in the current meaning of the word, are too long for quotation here, and we would as soon think of clipping a jetal from a flower or chipping an intaglio as to offer the reader bits of them. But there are two or three short poems, perhaps not the less rich in significance because they are small of compass which we shall be glad to reproduce, if only to give the reader a slight foretaste of what he may cull for himself in this volume. Thus, apropes of the essential loneliness which is the lot of every human being, and against whose impenetrable wall love himself is fated to beat his wings in vain, we have the following eight lines on whose purport Mr. Swinburne would have rung innumerable changes without adding a jot, it may be, to its weight and poignancy;

Thy lips touched mine, there fisshed a sudden fire Oh, was it joy, or did that wild desire Turn it to pain?

The thirst of soul Love's rapture could not siake
While we were twain;
Of our two beings one we could not make,
And that was pain.

Let us turn to something of a lighter mood. Here are some charming verses which will be appreciated by men who have passed the noontide of life and can look with tempered fondness on faces that recall old memories. The interlocutors in Mr. Story's dialogue call this poem "A Mistake."

How your sweet face revives again.
The dear old time, my Pearl,
If I may use the pretty name.
I called you when a girl.

You are so young; while Time of me Has made a cruel prey. It has forgotten you, nor swept One grace of youth away.

The same sweet face, the same aweet amile, The same little figure, too!
What did you say! "It was perchance
Your mother that I knew!"

Ah, yes, of course, it must have been, And yet the same you seem. And for a moment, all these years Fied from me like a dream.

Then what your mother would not give, Fermit me, dear, to take. The old man's privilege-a kiss— Just for your mother's sake.

In another scrap from the miscellany-with which we must rejuctantly bring our borrowings to an end-Mr. Story has something to say bout the labored profusion of metaphor and hyporrefinement of thought and feeling which are characteristic of some recent English "For instance," he says, "there is We are left to fill the gap for ourselve either with Mr. Swinburne's name, or even, facilis descensus, with that of Mr. Oscar Wilde I suppose he means something, but his meaning is so involved in a complicated web o vague and far-fetched words and phrases, that sometimes it is not a little difficult to get at it; and I am not sure that after you have got at it it is worth the trouble." Here are the verses in which Mr. Story depicts those modern Osries who discourse and warble t what flourish their natures will ":

A Brahmin he sits apart, Our modern poet, and gazes A Bralouin be sate aport.

Out modern poet, and gazes
Attentavely into his heart,
And its faint and vaporous phases
Examines with infinite care.

All his feelings are thin as sir.
All his leaves that the quaint and the old,
He dozes but the quaint and the old,
He dozes but the quaint and the old,
He dozes not be simple and held.
But refines, and refines, and refines,
And trends on a thread as spare
As the splace's gazes six.

That trembles in all its lines
And specific properties of the strong of the specific gazes of the specific properties.

And so, 'lwist the earth and the safe,'
And to neither with the is thought.

And he ponders his werds and his rhymes,
And strives to be deep and intense.

While the world of hearty and smeet.

The strong and palpitant world.

The powers and inseries of finas,
It's which it is whipped and whirled,
Me only to him an olderice. The powers and massens of man. By which it is whispied and whitled, Are only to him an offence. The the chaft shown away by the fan. That he eathers his garners to 150. Not the grain that the world's great mill Takes out of life as its toil. For he scorns the common and rude, And only examines he sool—It is particular south and wears. A vestment of which and wears. A vestment of which and of airs, And of fancies so trail and so thin Tint they scarcely can cover the nude. Little though he is university within, So sitting none and apart. The broads and he broads and he broads, And plays on his little life. And sings of his little moods, With a sweet ascheme at

Next to these strukes of playful, yet withal keen-edged, irony, which suggest the spitting of larks, we should like to set two resonant and ull-freighted sonnets on the great masters he English harp; but for these and many oth ne English harp; but for these and man bings that are bright and admirable w ommend the reader to the "Portfolio"

# TO KEEP AUTUMN LEAVES BRIGHT.

Hints From a Florist-Oak and Chestnut Leaves in Great Demand This Year.

Autumn leaves are very fashionable this year as parior decorations. All the large florists are getting them in in large quantities, and, after they are prepared, sell them at 25 cents a

ARTISTIC ODDITIES

Tricks of Bric-n-brac Makers-Collectors who Value Only the Fantastical.

"The customers who visit us most frequently." remarked a dealer in bric-à-brac. are those who have a passion for the quaint and odd in art playthings. We are careful to call their attention at once to any oddity we may pick up. Each of them seems to infer that he alone has had a sight of it, and if we can show that it is as unique as it is odd we do not have to wait long for a customer.

"Do you often meet with articles which are really unique?"

"No, we do not. Practically, in this business, an article is unique when, the demand for it not being large, we do not often run across it. People often believe, if they have a bronze article differing in some striking point from others of the sort, that it is the only one of its kind. They do not know that elastic moulds are used for certain kinds of quaint bric-Abrac. The maker casts his first figure as the

sind. They do not know that elastic moulds are used for certain kinds of quaint bric-àbrac. The maker casts his first figure as the mould stands; then by altering the mould slightly after each cast he produces a large variety of figures. Some makers do not use changeable moulds, but cast large numbers of their specialities and ship them to various points in assorted lots, not permitting more than a dozen of a kind to go to any particular place. This is the sort of stuff that admirers of the old pay considerable prices for.

"A man showed me one of these quaint and so-called ancient bronzes the other day, for which he had paid \$250. The subject was "The Morning Bath," and the bronze was signed "home, P. Jer." It purperted to have been dug up in the Campagna. Increatations of soil were to be seen here and there; the motal was oxidized in places, and vardigris lent its aid to the effect, But the design was of to-day, the soil was of New York origin, and the green tints and exidations were artificially produced. The old characteristic of this little bronze was the fact that a boy in the piece had the legs of a saty. Otherwise the piece would have been a whole-some piece of design, a quanity which would have ruined it for soarchers of the queer in art.

"Do I consider the taste for oddities a healthy one? Not when it is carried as far as it is by those who make it a specialty. I had a customer once whose taste in art was ruined by his fancy in this direction. I had placed in not window a very curious old print of Abraham and searc. On account of a siin of the common street of his intentions touching his son. The young man I speak of was fuscinated by this picture. I held it at a probibitory price, \$75. He determined to buy the print, and deposited \$25 on it, begging me to hold it for him. After a white he took his price away, and he has been buying things of that kind eversines. "A man I used to sell old shuff boxes to dates his passion for art oddities from the time I sold him a large metal bow, which he still rega

#### IMITATION STAINED GLASS.

Process by which the Genuine Article is Successfully Counterfelted.

Among the many uses of the printing press none is more novel than the production of imitation stained glass. Designs for any pattern desired are engraved on wood. The blocks of wood are placed on an old-fashioned hand press, and then are inked with oil colors compounded with special reference to the use for which they are intended. Then a sheet of very thin hand-made porous paper is laid on, and a prolonged impression given, in order that the color may thoroughly permeate the that the color may thoroughly permeate the paper. Each color is, of course, printed at a separate impression. Having completed the printing process the different pieces of paper which compose the design are soaked in warm water half an hour, taken out, the water spenged off and then coated on one side with a thin cement. A similar coat of cement is given the glass to which the paper is to be applied. the glass to which the paper is to be applied and then the paper is laid on in place, and varnished over. The plain glass window becomes at once, to all appearances, a window of stained glass. The effects of the lead lines, the irregular pieces of colored glass, the heads of saints and soldiers, the antique, or the modern Japanese designs are all to be had as brilliant in color as the genuine glass.

Will the stuff last ?" was asked of a Broadway dealer.

coor as the genuine glass.

Will the stuff last? was asked of a Broadway dealer.

We have had it in all sorts of places, where it was subject to the action of frost moisture, the direct rays of the sun, and artificial heat for five years. We warrant it for the years, if the owner of the glass will varnish it as often as he would a piece of furniture.

Suppose it gets dirty?

Use soap and water as you would on any other varnished surface. Its merits are only now becoming known because of a prejudice against imitations, and a fear among some people that the frost will ruin it. But within a year we have applied over 40,000 square feet of it. Our customers include the best Long Branch and Saratoga hotels, owners of new business blocks on Broadway fashionable churches in Now York and Brooklyn, and apartment houses. When the reporter of a Brooklyn paper write up one of the churches there as having magnificent new stanced glass windows when, in fact, the old six by nine glass in the old frames had been covered with company, we naturately hopped on to the top ruil of the fonce, flapped our wings and crowed."

How does the cost compare with genuine glass in the old frames had been covered with company. The study of the fonce, flapped our wings and crowed."

How does the cost compare with genuine glass window apartment have sessined as study church for \$11.

A real glass window opposite cost \$165. Members of the congregation have assured us that ours is more admired than the other. The

A costs about one-tenth as much. We put a large window in a country church for \$11. A real glass window opposite cost \$165. Members of the congregation have assured us that ours is more admired than the other. The cost of decorating a window is 75 cents a loot if we do the work. We will sell the designs, and the parties can put them on at less cost. Any one can do the work."

## WOMEN PENCERS.

An Exercise Practised to Round the Arm and Give a Januty Carriage,

A man with a waxed moustache, mild blue eyes, and a bald head stood in a martial attiude is his fencing academy yesterday, and twirled a stick in his hand. It-the stick-was about three feet long, half an inch in diameter. and had a basket hilt, which effectually protected the hand of the man using it.

"This is the implement that ladies handle in fencing," said the Professor, balancing it defily on one finger.
"Why don't they use the foil?"

"They are afraid of it. Besides, they don't

## SOME INTERESTING NOVELTIES.

Story Writing Made Easy.

From the Chicago Tribune.

"Is this the literary editor?"

The horse reporter looked up and discovered a young lady standing in the horse reporter looked up and discovered a young lady standing in the doorway. No, madam, he replied, "the literary editor is at present engaged in the construction of an elaborate critique of the Testing and Pacing Record. You will probably see sometimes in next week's paper about the obj. the love story of Naid S. and St. delice, the testion roomany of Jan Kie Nea, and the week's paper about the obj. the love and adding the lateral testing the story of the paper will be the looked that the paper will be the lateral testion of this paper will be the lateral testion of the paper will be the lateral testion of the paper will be the lateral testion to the work we have been took that the conce to the lateral testion to the more than the lateral testion to the work we called in regard to the equate of the lateral testion to the known to all and that to the merchant, the farmer of the young monther who wanted something handy to those watch the children when they became too light that the children when they became too light the chaste volume would prove invaluable. When it comes to giving a calm and dispassionate equinon, in which the literary editor is liable to beat the record any minute. I suppose you have an original story, written on when langer and test with a bile ribbon, concealed some men

chaste volume would prove invaniable. When it causes to giving a cain and dispassionate opinion, in which the litted give of impassioned grains is writerined and main give of impassioned grains is writerined and main give of impassioned grains is writerined and main give of the provided grains in the control of the provided grains in the control of the provided grains in the literary editor to can make a story, and the within a blue ribbin, concealed some three paper and tied with a blue ribbin, concealed some three about your person, and want the literary editor to can mume with it?

"Yes, air," replied the young lady. "I have written a story, and manima thinks it is very good."

Is there say thing in it, about the leaves turning to gree and convert the grain of the leaves turning to gree and for the grain of the leaves turning to gree and convert. Because for the leaves turning to gree and for brown. Because of October saw on the first and leaves turning golden stories is shout at an end. And leaves turning golden stories is shout at an end, and leaves turning golden stories is shout at an end. And leaves turning golden stories is shout at an end, and leaves to carry over it mest season more browned. I deliver glow of the dying embers a packet is what we shall show the public from now until December, tool any dying embers in your story!

"No, sir. Mine is a love story."

"That's all right. The dull red glow of dying embers works in beautiful in a love story. Although, as a rule, young men who fall in love don't have currency enough to buy a cord of wood to make embers of."

"But why must I write my story in this particular style." asked the young lady.

"But why must I write my story in this particular style." asked the young lady.

"But why must I write my story in this particular style." asked the young lady.

"But why must I write my story in this particular style." asked the came trooping up from the dim vist of a sing that as Hardol Noneselect the rich unker say in that a start wouldn't do a fail. The sa

his happy boy hood days you want to trot out Lucy.

Trot out while they Perkins—with her great blue eyes and goden hair—the playmate of his youth that he loved and goden hair—the playmate of his youth that he loved so dearly and siways looked upon as his future wife. Then lug out another unbidden tear, and fluidly have the old man break down in a storm of sole.

"It's very sad, isn't it?" said the young lady. "Jucy died, I suppose, and the old man's heart is breaking." No, "said the reparter." Lucy married another man."

"Then what makes the banker weep?" she inquired "Sympathy for the other man."

# Scenes and Incidents in Sitks.

Seenes and Encidents in Sitka.

From the Northwest Nees.

The misty rain did not prevent us from farther exploration of the queer old town. The lower part is built of block houses, formerly occupied by seldiciss, but now given over entirely to Indians. This beach is stream, with cances just in from fishing, and eye out the Islands. Said where, from dy and keeping an eye out the Islands. Said where, from dy and keeping an eye out the Islands. Said where, from dy and keeping an eye out the Islands. Said where, from dy and the Islands in Itanay, are out on the Sound haddling around by the initiancy, are out on the Sound haddling around by the initiancy, are out on the Sound haddling around by the initiancy are in the Islands. Though all their talk was in native fongue, they cried in English. "out," foul," Italiy," one strike, as they had learned from seeing saliors play. Their actions were very annusing, and their bail locked and felt like a potato tied up in a rag. A lot of girls sitting on a pile of high boulders overlonked the scene, and busied themselves in turring ring doils, whose wooden heals showed skill of carving that seems wonderful from these unaught people, the exploration of the Islands are so superior in many ways to tribes of their progressive person would naturally become interest any progressive person would naturally become interest and progressive person would naturally terian Mission established a school here divide in the other than the fact a hard struggle, has all isst come to a firm footing, and, with those at Wrangel and other ports had done much to suppress witcherful reaching and other ports had done much to suppress witcherful reaching and other ports had done much to suppress witcherful reaching and other ports had done much to suppress witcherful reaching and other ports had seen and with the white from a departing Russian, and sports a brassian and spor

A Prosperous Chinese Physician.

A Prosperous Chinese Physician.

A celebrity among the Chinese of San Francisco is their great declor, Li Fo Tai. He has been in this country nearly thrity years, and has a larger in come from his profession than any white practitioner in the city. His patients all come to his office when able and Li Fo Tai sits up habited in gorgeous silks and brocales in all title den of an office averlooking the plaza. In feeds pulses all day long. The patients are mostly in the city of the city of the patients are mostly in the city of the c

## Mgr. Capel's Mission to America.

From the St. Louis Republican.

Yesterday the reporter met a gentleman who was educated for the pricethood, and who has a large acquantance among the Jesuis. Mgr. Capel's visit was similed to, and the gentiaman and I besieve Mgr. Capel has never stated publicly the real direct of his visit to America. I begive Mgr (appel has never stated publicly the real object of his visit to America."

Can von give it to the without viniating confidence!?

Cut tainly, it is simply this: It is proposed to hold in the online of next year an economical council, at with the basist, style of dress, and general deportment of the prioritional with the discussed. One of the shortest objects of the nonneit will be to decide an experiment of the prioritional with the discussed. One of the shortest objects of the nonneit will be to decide applied to the experiment of the wearing of any actual of the property of the council will be used to be represented to wear a regularity dress, and the wearing of any actual of property of the council will be produced. There will be a first or transient will be produced. There will be a first or an experiment of the wearing of made the exact nature of which I have not been advected. I know this that the council have not been advected. I know this that the council have not been advected. Now Mgr Capel was commissionally was adouted. Now Mgr Capel was commissionally was adouted. Now Mgr Capel was commissional to the country and confer privately with a liston for the purpose of secretalizing their view to again the several matters to be invostable locations for the purpose of secretalizing their view to again the several matters to be invostable before the properties above the all will be made."

#### Cardinal Newman Wants a Catholic College et Oxford. From the London Standard.

Prom the London standard.

Rome, Oct. 19.—The interviews which I have itself the Interviews which I have itself with the Interviews which I have itself with the I have with regard to the question as the kind in the I have itself with the I have the I have itself with the I have t

"Why don't they use the foil?"

They are afraid of it. Besides they don't like to wear masks, which rumple the hair."

Have you many women punds?

Nue come here, mal I need two families have gymnasiums of their own, and two of the hair are spite expert with the sticks. I don't aim to teach them foreing—simply the short of the hair here with the sticks. I don't aim to teach them foreing—simply the short of the hair here with intent to stick but merely for the stick exercises. They do not thrust at each other with intent to stick but merely for the stick are movements the but merely for the stick are movements of my second in parrying. It is all very mee and gentle."

Then they do not leave them good color makes their arms to fletwest them good color makes their arms to fletwest them good color makes their arms to fletwest them good color and the sticks are received. It is particularly increases their strength. It is particularly increases their strength in the produced in which are the strength in the sticks of any other country and cost a manual results of the case of the common in the sticks and touch the fletwest them in the stick states to make their arms to fletwest them good color makes their arms to fletwest them good for gramma with the sticks of any other continues.

Yes, if you choose."

Yes, if you choose, the produced the produced the strength of the fletwest them good for gramma wh